



**Kalamazoo  
Bicycle Club**

February 2025

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER — JOHN KNOWLTON

I know lots of people despise Daylight Savings time. On Sunday, March 9, we will all set our clocks forward one hour. We feel we're robbed of sixty minutes of sleep. And if you have young kids in the house, they're all out of sorts. But for KBC members, it also means group rides are here! Yep, we start group rides on Monday March 10.

We have simplified evening start times for 2025: We roll out at **5:30 p.m.** in March and October, **6:00 p.m. April through September**. KBC offers the best group rides in the area. We strive to provide rides that are Safe and Fun for Everyone. We do this through our structured meeting times, great routes, and great ride leaders. Ride leaders help us stay organized, provide support and encouragement to riders, and remind us of our shared commitments to safety and courtesy. Riding with a sanctioned ride leader on a KBC ride also means that KBC members can access supplemental insurance in the event of an accident.

Interested in serving the community as a ride leader? Please apply at [this link](#). Want to team up with a buddy? Have him or her apply, too! We will ask you to attend a short ride leader summit (at the kick off party or via recording) and commit to safety principles.

Speaking of a kick off party, let's have one! Saturday night March 8 at Wind + James in Schoolcraft! We'll have a fun evening and encourage each other to start the season right! See details on page #5. I have been hitting the gym and spin classes pretty hard and can't wait to see you at a club ride next month!



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**Please send stories  
and photos of your  
rides to:**

editor@kalamazoobicycle  
club.org

# KBC Business

The next KBC meeting will be **Tuesday, 11 March 2025** at **7:00 p.m.** at **Oshtemo Community Center** (North Room), 6407 Parkview Ave, Kalamazoo MI .

## Kalamazoo Bicycle Club

### **2025 Meeting Schedule** (no longer monthly )

**March 8th, 2025**— Club Party @ Wind+James 18:00-20:00

~~March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025~~— CANCELED

May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025

June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025

October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025 – Nominations

November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025 – Elections

### **A Sincere Thank You to Our Generous Donors**

We are grateful to the following people for their generous financial contribution to the Kalamazoo Bicycle Club. Their support allows KBC to continue its work and improve bicycling in the Kalamazoo area.

Thank you for your continued support!

Tim Krone

Paul and Mary Selden

Paul and Pam Sotherland

PEDAL

### **Current KBC Open Positions:**

Ride Captain

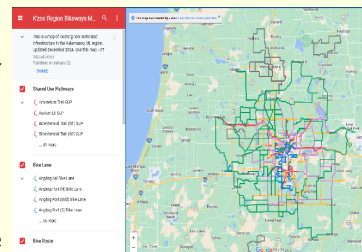
Social Director

Communications Director

Consider volunteering for one of these open positions and helping KBC pedal into the future.

## **Great Cycling Navigation Resource**

"All who wander are not lost" and this navigation resource of established cycling routes in the Kalamazoo area will help you to pick the best path to get you to your destination. This excellent resource has been created by KBC members Paul Sotherland and Doug Kirk and is updated quarterly. It is organized them into a hierarchy of Shared Use Pathways, Bike Lanes, Bike Routes, Gravel routes and Shoulders as shown in the Bikeways legend. If you are riding other bicycle routes in the area and believe they should be on this map please propose them the club and we will see they are added. Helmets off to Paul and Doug for their cartographic efforts in creating this resource. (click on the map above will take you to [KATS Non-Motorized Facilities Map](#))



## **Share your ride with KBC in 2025**

Throughout the coming year please submit stories about rides that inspire, amuse or share lessons learned to editor@kalamazooobicycleclub.org. Trips, adventures, long rides, race results, an experience on a trail, a pleasant outing with the family...in short, share anything you think may help our members get a feeling for your diverse and wonderful bicycling experiences. Always good to hear from everyone !

## **Shorter Bike Lanes Downtown Kalamazoo**

Major changes coming for the bike lanes in downtown Kalamazoo. As Paul Sotherland states "If we truly are headed toward removing the cycle track on Michigan Ave east of Rose AND creating safe/comfortable routes for cyclists to ride their bikes to locations close to City Center, park their bikes, and then walk to destinations, then let's encourage the City to make those changes now." Doing so would require some planning, paint, and sufficient signage. And, ten to one says doing that now would help shift the narrative about the downtown reconfiguration away from "...those damn bike lanes..." to something akin to "Streets For All."

Click the above link to read the entire article off MLIVE.

## **March 2025 Membership**

Total Memberships: 274

Total Individuals: 428

**New or Renewed Members:** David Anderson; Mark Atkinson; Sandy Blix; Tom Brennan; Tori Cane; Kevin Cleary; Paul Clift; Mike Connelly; Steve Cox; Dennis Derhammer; Neil Feliksa; Terry Florian; Artis Freye & Kevin Ulrich; Mark Jackson; Michelle Karpinski; Phillip Kline; Lisa LaForge; Don Leitow & Family; Ed Maring & Family; Tom Noverr; Terry O'Connor; Richard Schau; Paul Selden; Steve Stapleton; Paul Stevens; Mike & Sharon VanderMeulen; Mike Vandever; Valarie Vuk; Dave & Julie Weighman; Greg Worsnop

**January Expired Members:** Carolyn Peurach & Family; Mark Zettel

**February Expired Members:** Rick Bauer; Kathy & Doug Kirk; Jonathan Penrod; Katie Seifert & Family; Joe & Jeaneen Stephansky; Monica Tory & Jonathan Evans

Rick Whaley, Membership Director

# KBC 2024 Annual Financial Report

The following shows the club's income/expense statement from January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024

**Cash Balance, January 1, 2024** \$25,246.47

## Income

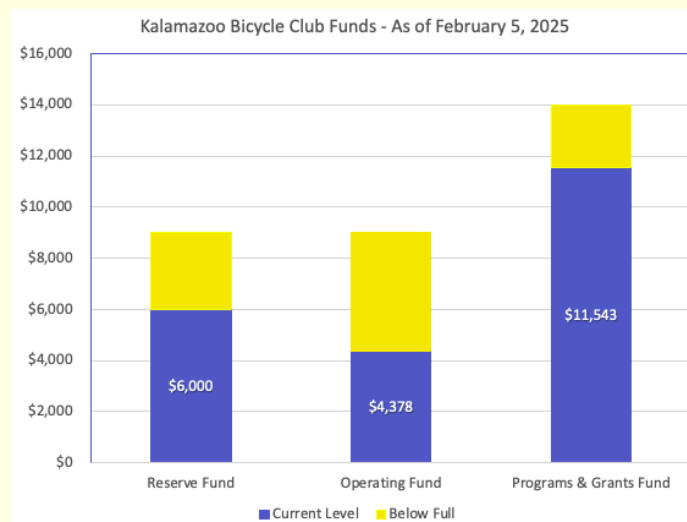
Interest Income	448.50
Membership Dues	7,650.00
Donations	600.00
KalTour Registrations	8,940.00
Restricted Donations	<u>5,546.00</u>
	\$23,184.50

## Expenses

Ambucs Donation	2,115.28
Cycling Shorts	330.00
General Club Expenses	1,439.03
Gifts/Awards	100.00
Grants Awarded	4,000.00
Insurance	3,575.00
Kalamazoo Commuter Challenge	4,884.00
KalTour	4,584.44
LAB/LMB Memberships	228.75
TCL Race Team	1,000.00
Social Activities	1,077.21
Subscriptions	280.00
Time Trial	336.36
Website	<u>200.65</u>
	<u>(24,150.72)</u>

**Cash Balance, December 31, 2024** \$24,280.25

## Current KBC Funds as of 02/05/2025



Pam Sotherland, KBC Finance Director

## 2024 KBC Member Mileage Almanac



How many miles did you ride in 2024?

I know a lot of you keep track of the miles you ride. This is an early call to submit yours, in time to print in the March edition of Pedal Press. Your report may inspire others to get out there and ride, too -- regardless of the distance!

If you are a current KBC member and want to give others a sense of what you are doing mile-age-wise, you can click the above link and enter the miles directly into a spreadsheet or mail your first and last name and miles logged to: [editor@kalamazoobicycleclub.org](mailto:editor@kalamazoobicycleclub.org) or [pselden@aol.com](mailto:pselden@aol.com)

Estimates ("about 750"), reasonable rounding (if you say, "under 1000" that is close enough for me), and exact numbers ("1234") are all equally okay. Indoor and/or outdoor miles -- we play no favorites in this annual KBC column. In other words, this is for fun and it's very informal.

To make March's Pedal Press, reports submitted on or by 01 March will be printed. After that, I'll close the request for our **"2024 KBC Member's Annual Mileage Almanac."**

**Paul Selden**, KBC Member & Annual Milage Reporter

## KBC Anniversary Party

No better way to kick off the 2025 riding season with a party with fellow cyclists. So unthaw or get off your trainer for a few hours and get down to Wind+James ([555 E Eliza St. Schoolcraft](#)), on **Saturday, March 08** for the **KBC Party**, starting at 6:00pm and wrapping up at 8:00 pm. It is a great time to catch up with old friends and meet some new ones ( bonus, it is free ! ).

Here's the lowdown on features of our Anniversary Party:

- KBC will provide beverages and sandwiches
- Other menu items will be pot-luck, so please prepare and bring a dish to share; a dessert would suffice if that's what you prefer to provide.
- We'll have the Gear Swap table again, so think about bringing gear you no longer use (NO worn out junk please) and swapping it for gear that's on the table.
- Ride Leader Training will be covered.

Mark your calendar and we look forward to seeing you there !

## Helmet Name Stickers for KBC Members

Here's a quick reminder about an opportunity to get your name emblazoned on the sides of your bicycling helmet. KBC will supply one set of helmet stickers - one sticker for each side of the helmet - to each KBC member, free of charge. Thanks to Barb and John Hart's expert help you too can have your own name sticker that looks like these



So, if you want to order name stickers for your helmet, please click on this link to the [name sticker order form](#) and then pick up your stickers at the upcoming KBC Launch Party, 6 PM, March 8, Wind & James. Stickers must be ordered by Saturday, March 1 to be available for pickup on the 8th.

Submitted by Pam Sotherland



## Ride Across Greenland (an invitation)

Hello Mr. Knowlton,

I would like to invite Kalamazoo Bicycle Club's members to take part the world's first crossing of Greenland by bicycle. This historic expedition kicks off on August 16, 2025, and is expected to take 7-12 days complete. Riders not only should have significant cycling experience, but also significant cold-weather and camping experience. We only have 2 spaces left and spots are filling up quick!



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to

For full details on logistics, route information, and participation, please visit our website: <https://www.tourdeice.bike/> I would greatly appreciate it if you could share this opportunity with your club's members, and instruct any interested members to email me, as well as register their interest [here](#). Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best regards,

Daniel Speeney

[Tour de Ice](#) Ambassador  
University of Notre Dame

## Bike-Packing 101



Looking to get into bike packing this year ? Matt Acker (of Barry-Roubaix Fame) will be giving a presentation on Bike Packing at the Pedal bicycle shop in Portage on 21Feb at 6:00pm. A very accomplished rider and adventure racer, Matt is a wealth of information and will provide and great overview this adventure touring.

If bike touring with panniers is like traveling with a big roller suitcase, bikepacking is like traveling with only a carry-on backpack. The goal is to have everything you need and also to need everything you have.

And this checklist from Adventure Cyclist (link) is pretty spot on:



Paul Guimond, KBC Vice President